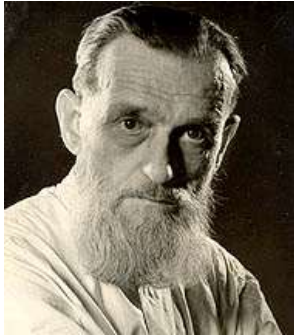


University of Chicago Economist Raaj Sah Honors Father Camille Bulcke, Preeminent Hindi Scholar



Father Camille Bulcke, SJ

Father Camille Bulcke, a Belgium-born Jesuit and a preeminent Hindi scholar, was honored by Professor Raaj Sah, who gifted a plaque to Father Bulcke's birthplace of Ramskapelle, a village in Knokke-Heist.

After arriving in India as a young Jesuit, Father Bulcke spent most of his life at St. Xavier's College, Ranchi, until he passed away in 1982. Transcending cultures, he became an architect of modern Hindi literature. His contributions include those on epics of Lord Rama, and on the peerlessness of the medieval devotional poet Tulsidas.

Sah gifted the plaque as a symbol of his gratitude for Father Bulcke's mentorship. At the plaque's unveiling in September 2020, Count Leopold Lippens, Mayor of Knokke-Heist, said, "It is important for us Belgians to appreciate, and to pass on to our future generations, the magisterial heritage that Father Bulcke created in India. We are grateful to Professor Sah for memorializing the virtuous legacy of his mentor at his birthplace."

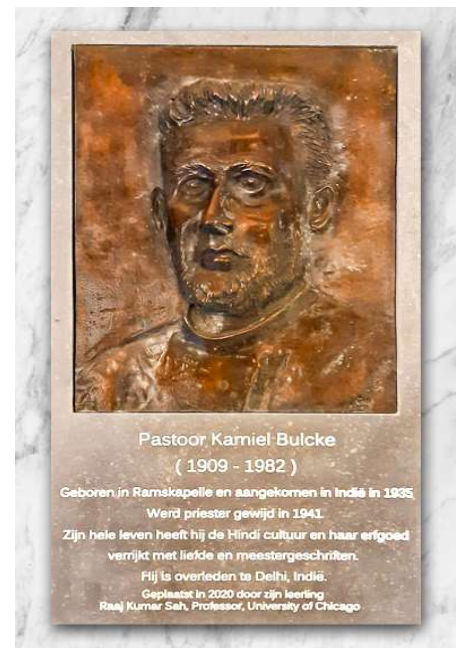
Sah is Professor of Public Policy and Economics at the University of Chicago. The Government of Japan has conferred on him the Imperial honor "The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon." This honor was for his contributions to the Japanese government's economic and financial policies. Sah previously held faculty positions at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Princeton University, the University of Pennsylvania, and Yale University.



Raaj Sah, University of Chicago

Father Nicholas Tete, former Principal of St. Xavier's College Ranchi, observed that "Father Bulcke strived to integrate intellectual work with wisdom and virtue. The bond between him and Dr. Sah was phenomenal. The present commemoration reflects that tangible and intangible bond. It inspires us and warms our hearts."

"In the Indian preceptor-pupil relationship, the pupil's gratitude is lifelong, and its expression is unaffected by the passage of time, or by the preceptor having passed away years ago," remarked Dr. Ralph Nicholas, Professor Emeritus of Anthropology at the University of Chicago.



Plaque honoring Camille Bulcke, gifted by Raaj Sah